

THE O'NEIL FRONTIER

D. H. CRONIN, Publisher.

O'NEILL, NEBRASKA

The inventor of a steel railroad tie that also serves as a cattle guard says it can be laid in half the time required for a wooden tie and will prevent wrecks caused by rails spreading.

New airbrakes that have been adopted by a large eastern railroad reduced by 600 feet or more the distance in which a heavy train running at 60 miles an hour can be stopped.

A Wisconsin boy is the inventor of a portable equipment to enable a person to connect with any telephone or telegraph line and either talk over it or use telegraph instruments.

Judge Denny, of the superior court of Santa Rosa, Cal., construed three letters left by Charles Carlsen, of Sonoma, to be testamentary documents and equivalent to a will.

To prevent the absorption of dampness from the ground by stone buildings, a new European practice is to cut slots in their walls and insert asphalt coated lead plates.

Mrs. Lizzie Tucker Johnson Hawkins, of Jnsdale, Ga., has been married three times and twice of her marriages her husband turned out to be a bigamist.

The inventor of a new auger bit has made it thick at the edges and thin at the center, and says it will force the chips toward the center and thus avoid clogging.

An electric fare box for street cars that has been invented automatically registers the correct number of fares paid by each kind of coin dropped in to it.

To keep a sleeping child covered a woman has invented a combination garment and blanket, the former being buttoned about the body of its user.

An electrical device that a Frenchman has invented for curling women's hair is said to be so effective that the hair retains its shape for months.

Patents have been granted to a Maryland inventor for a gasoline cartridge for breaking up farm soil in the same way that dynamite is used.

Rubber models of essential parts of cows have been invented in England, to give girls who are learning to be milk maids practical instruction.

The annual waste in the United States of foods available for cattle has been estimated at \$100,000,000 by department of agriculture experts.

Fully 50 feet higher and more than twice as wide as Niagara, the falls of Iguazu, in South America, form one of the wonders of that continent.

Aztec corn 1,000 years old was recently planted in Kansas. It grows much faster than modern corn and the grains will be at a premium.

Seal island, 15 miles off Vinahaven, Me., is said to possess a devil's den, which opens a passageway underground across the island.

Glasgow provides its policemen with warm food and tea when on duty at night by the use of electrically heated plates in signal boxes.

A Frenchman has invented an apparatus to compress air in a reservoir as doors of a house are opened and utilize it to wind clocks.

The chief American article sold in China is kerosene. The value of this single product exceeds all other American imports combined.

Oil obtained from seeds of Brazilian rubber trees has been found an acceptable substitute for linseed oil by British paint makers.

Punch bowls of molded ice, with delicate flowers incased therein, are being turned out for social functions by some ice manufacturers.

An internal combustion locomotive of German invention, which uses crude oil for fuel, frequently attains a speed of 60 miles an hour.

The practice of filtering air for cooling electrical machinery through water curtains to exclude dust is growing in favor in England.

German tests have shown a scarcity of good cattle fodder does not decrease the fat content, but only the quantity of milk produced.

In Ceylon the largest pearls are worth \$200 to \$250; in Europe and America they sell at more than three times this price.

President Poincare, of France, has made a collection of photographs of English soldiers who have won the Victoria cross.

A waterfall in Norway will be harnessed and made to provide 125,000-horse power for smelting and refining zinc ore.

A recently patented sanitary shaving brush has a sponge instead of bristles, and the handle is made to contain soap.

What its inventor says is an unbreakable telephone receiver has a steel skeleton within its hard rubber body.

There are about 10,000 electric trucks and wagons in service in the United States, operating in 124 lines of travel.

Germans have developed a process for spinning kapok fibers into yarns that can be woven into textiles.

The state of Wisconsin last year paid \$10,290 to give children in the rural districts free rides to school.

Toy molds, to enable children to make building blocks from snow, have been invented by a German.

Out of 65 houses in Wharton road, Bromley, Eng., 69 men have joined the colors.

A Delmar N. Y. church provides ear trumpets for the use of deaf attendants.

This country produces nearly \$5,000,000 worth of natural mineral waters a year.

Before the war there were 900,000 women in France employed as domestics.

Sweden during the last five years has consumed 1,126,000 tons of bread yearly.

One hundred and fifty vessels passed through the Panama canal in July.

Koochiebiching is the name of one of Minnesota's counties.

Missouri in 1915 produced 195,634 tons of lead.

One third of the steel in 1915 came from

COMMITTEE PLANS

UNIQUE ROAD BILL

Nebraska May Benefit by Government Road Fund—Auto Truck Line Is Urged.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5—If the joint committee on roads and bridges of both houses has its way, Nebraska will get an earnest effort to get in on the general government road bill distribution.

A bill that accepts the ideas of the federal department and which provides for a mill levy each year to create a federal road fund, has been drawn and recommended for passage.

The bill provides for the districting of the state into "projects," not exceeding five counties each, and provides for a distribution of the money upon a mileage and population basis, but only those parts of the state will be favored that are willing to make a state contribution of a third to the total cost.

Auto truck lines are permitted in a bill that has the signature of Speaker Jackson as author. It permits the organization of corporations that are authorized to take and hold whatever property is necessary for them to locate and construct hard surfaced roads.

These are, in effect, toll lines, as it is proposed to collect from every auto that comes along and if they may permit to use the road. The corporation is also authorized to use on these roads motor vehicles for carrying passengers, freight and express. If it becomes a law the first experimental road will be built from Lincoln to Omaha.

Howell, of Douglas, introduced a bill permitting cities to take over public utilities privately owned on a majority vote, the courts to settle the price if the offer is not satisfactory to the owners. Another bill permits Robert Drake, of Omaha, to sue the state for \$18,000 he claims is due him for building a state aid bridge at Fremont, where action of the waters forced a second refilling.

OLD REPUBLICAN FEUD AGAINST HOWELL REVIVED

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5—The old republican feud against National Committee member Howell, of Omaha, showed up in a new phase when a bill was introduced in the senate to prohibit the holder of any city office, including that of a member of the water board, from being a candidate for or being elected as a member of the national or state committee.

Howell is now chairman of the water board and the big exponent of public ownership in that city. If this bill should become a law it would compel him to choose, when a national committeeman is next elected, whether to resign his city position or retire from the national committee. The bill is so drawn that it may be construed to force his retirement now. Mayor Dahlman was a candidate for national committeeman last year on the democratic side.

DR. R. E. OAKS IS DEAD FROM PNEUMONIA

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5—Dr. R. E. Oaks, second physician at the Hastings hospital for the insane, who had to report that his father-in-law had been appointed a member of the board that appoints all state institutional officers, is dead. A telegram from Hastings says that death came after a brief struggle with a case of pneumonia. Dr. Oaks was a son-in-law of E. O. Mayfield, who has his position as member of the state board of control March 1, and under the law nepotism is forbidden.

FIRE IN LINCOLN SUBURB

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5—Fire early this morning wiped out the business section of the little town of Waverly, a Lincoln suburb, causing a loss of approximately \$25,000. A fire brigade of 150 volunteer firemen fought the blaze. Among the buildings destroyed are the largest general merchandise store, a fraternity hall, a drug store building and two of Waverly's finest homes. The cause of the fire is unknown.

NEBRASKA HOUSES BACK PRESIDENT

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5—A vast variety is shown in the bills introduced in the senate and house at the last moment. There are now a dozen bills fixing maximum charges for telephone conversation at 35 cents for three minutes, anywhere in the state, with smaller fees for short distances. One member wants telephone companies in the same city be drilled that payees providing that charge. Another would prevent the building of a competing company unless a certificate of necessity is secured from the railway commission.

A Variety of Bills. Here are some of the other more important measures providing that towns and cities may vote on whether to permit Sunday moving pictures; limiting salaries of officers of insurance companies to 3 per cent of gross premium income; less reinsurance; providing for a state telephone commission; teachers' pensions; providing that as a basis for rate making public utility companies may be stopped from claiming a greater value than they return to the tax assessor; permitting cities and villages to borrow two miles to provide for free concerts and entertainments; creating state boards of plumbing inspectors and boiler inspectors; abolishing capital punishment; making it a misdemeanor to open banks or buildings punishable by from 20 years to life; prescribing methods by which members of the national guard absent on military duty may vote; appropriating \$6,000 to buy a diamond ring for a state telephone commission; providing for the establishment of district custodial farms for misdemeanors; limiting commissions on getting loans; and prohibiting collection of them on loans drawn on a paper cent, reserving to the state all rights to oils and minerals on school lands and providing for leasing the same.

EARNINGS UP \$16,000,000.

New York, Feb. 2.—The Republic Iron & Steel company, one of the industrial corporations, that has profited largely by the war contracts, reports net earnings of \$16,544,636 in its annual statement for 1915 issued today. This is an increase of \$11,255,305 over the previous year.

The balance available to the common stock deducting of preferred dividends and charges is equal to 47.95 per cent on that issue of the company, compared with 3.56 per cent last year.

The company's surplus was increased to \$18,256,232 or by almost 100 per cent.

Philippine palm brandy is being brought to the attention of importers in Hongkong. It is hoped that this will bring the market for the alcoholic products of the islands.

HIS FATHER A CANADIAN; MAY LOSE SENATE SEAT

Special to The Tribune.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 2.—Attorneys in the senate were pointing out today that Senator Howell's right to a seat, which is to be disputed, has been decided adversely by the supreme court. Howell's father, a Canadian, took out his first papers only, it is said. This does not make the son a qualified voter, and no one can be senator without being so qualified. Howell says that the threatened action to oust him is in retaliation for his attack on gang rule in Omaha.

20 Dead in Explosion.

Chicago, Feb. 3.—While more than 100 men worked over the smoldering recovered ruins of the west side tenement house which was wrecked by an explosion early Friday these results had been established: The known dead numbered 19; injured, 21; missing, 23 and the rescued uninjured, 22.

The tenement, located at 822-23 Fayette street, in the heart of the west side's ghetto district, continued at the time of the explosion sleeping men, women and children, variously estimated at between 50 and 90.

NEBRASKA LANDS

ILLEGALLY SOLD?

Land Commission Begins Action in Senate to Recover 38,000 Acres.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 5—State Land Commissioner G. L. Shumway has informed the senate that in his opinion over 38,000 acres of state lands, estimated to be worth \$7,600,000 at present prices, has been illegally sold by state officers in years past. He suggests the appointment of a legislative committee to determine what, if any, official action shall be taken to restore this land to the state. The lands in question are known as saline lands ceded by the government to the state, and the acreage in question is largely in Lancaster county.

The request of the state land commission was addressed to Lieutenant Governor Edgar Howard and by him presented to the state senate for consideration. Land Commissioner Shumway said in his communication that he is embarrassed by the fact that a long line of predecessors of excellent public fame have passed this saline land question by without action. He does not give his reasons for the belief that the state illegally sold saline lands.

It is generally supposed that saline lands are lands given by the government to a county for the purpose of developing salt springs, some of which existed on Salt creek west of the city of Lincoln. The government grants were in several counties. The only salt springs that were ever used for the making of salt were near Lincoln.

After the passage of the Sheldon bill in 1897, a legislative enactment that prohibited the sale of state lands in the future, the saline lands are said to have been transferred by legislative enactment to the school lands under the board of educational lands and funds, and were subject to disposal in the same manner as other state lands by lease or sale, if leased prior to the act of 1897.

The state constitution says salt springs belonging to the state shall never be alienated. The difference between salt springs and saline lands ceded by the government have not been defined by the state. If salt springs alone are the lands that have been illegally sold by the state, the title to a considerable portion of lands around and underlying the lake at Capital Beach, west of Lincoln, may be under the control of the school lands and funds, and the school board's questions are cleared up. The manufacture of salt at the springs was abandoned in early days and the state lands were leased or sold.

Last year the attorney general of Nebraska gave an opinion to the state board of educational lands and funds, holding that a certain tract of saline lands under lease could not be sold by the state.

Early in his first term Attorney General Reed planned to start a movement to recover \$100,000 worth of lands deeded by the state to two men, but he has been too busy with other little matters to make the attempt. Land Commissioner Shumway is not so busy. He proposes to see what can be done to recover saline lands which the state deeded to private parties.

NEBRASKA HOUSES HAVE A VARIETY OF BILLS

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DENVER PRIZES WON

BY LYONS STOCKMAN

One of D. E. Couchman's Hampshire Barrows Won Grand Championship.

Lyons, Neb., Feb. 3.—D. E. Couchman has returned from Denver, where he had on exhibition a car load of his cross bred Hampshire barrows at the Denver fat stock show, winning first in their class and championship and grand champion over all breeds. These hogs were sold at auction and brought \$17.75 per 100, the highest price ever known to be paid for a car load of hogs. They had 19 loads to show against, including a car of Euros from the experiment station of this state. They also had Berkshire and Poland Chinas to beat.

Mr. Couchman's hogs were third cross Hampshire and were 9 months old, and weighed 272 pounds and brought over \$45 apiece in the single classes. He won all the firsts, two seconds and one third, and had 60 to show against him in the 350-pound class. He won first and second and in the 300-pound class. He won first and second in the 250-pound class.

The first prize 350-pound barrow won grand championship, then went out and sold at auction for 27c a pound. This barrow was weighed when taken off the pasture when 5 1/2 months old. He then weighed 140 1/2, and was put on full feed and weighed every two weeks, showing a gain of two pounds a day for 75 days. The last day he gained a little over two and one-half pounds a day.

NEGRO HOLDUPS GET \$2,300 IN OMAHA

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 3—Shortly after Morris Chaikin, a clerk, opened Harry Lincoln's grocery store at Twenty-fourth and M streets, south side, this morning, he was held up by two negroes armed with shotguns and shotguns and between \$400 and \$500 in currency and \$1,200 in checks.

Yesterday one of Lincoln's delivery men drove a store automobile off the Q street bridge. The machine was devalued and the man probably fatally hurt.

PROPOSED RATE INCREASE SUSPENDED BY COMMISSION

Washington, Feb. 3—The Interstate Commerce commission yesterday suspended from February 1 to June 1 the proposed increase of commodity rates on grapes from Omaha and Council Bluffs to Sioux Falls and Mitchell, S. D., sought by the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroads.

The proposed rule to increase from \$2 to \$4 per car load an enormous weight of grain or seeds at various points in the western trunk line territory also was suspended to June 1.

The commission also suspended to June 1 the increase in rates on hay, carloads, from Missouri river points to Illinois, Tennessee and southeastern territory.

RADICAL CHANGE IN THE LIABILITY LAW

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 3—Workmen's compensation law enforcement is removed from Labor Commissioner George H. H. Plummer and placed in the hands of a "compensation commissioner" to be appointed by the governor, in S. F. 220, introduced in the senate Wednesday afternoon by Senator Beal, of Custer.

The law radically amends the present compensation law, making the commissioner the arbiter of settlement disputes subject only to appeal to the district court within five days.

He can compel testimony. There are no fees for application to him for awards. No casualty insurance company need be represented at a hearing before him unless the company has assumed joint liability with the employer.

A compensation bill by the same author, S. F. 213, makes liability more certain and increases the compensation.

IOWA STATE NEWS.

COUNCIL BLUFFS—Hert Wilson, of Red Oak, is in a Council Bluffs hospital, where he is to have a new nose placed on his face. Having lost the fleshy part of his nose, one of his fingers is to be split, the nose inserted and might be in place until it has grown together, when the arm will be released. It is believed the operation will be successful.

CEDAR RAPIDS—The Chicago Federation of Labor was appealed to yesterday by local union leaders to aid in settling the second Quaker Oats strike, which caused 200 employees to walk out yesterday. Organized labor officials in Chicago promised to take the matter up with Quaker Oats officers there.

FOIT DODGE—Three hundred plumbers from Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and Nebraska are today here as guests of the Foit Dodge supply company, which is putting on a short course. Eight hundred invitations were issued. Men nationally known in the trade will speak.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The president has accepted the resignation of Capt. Thomas A. Buchanan, of the medical corps of the Iowa national guard.

FOIT DODGE—Dr. G. R. Istine, dean of physicians here, is dead here, aged 70 years. He came here in 1871. He served under Gen. Lew Wallace in the civil war. He was prominent in many medical societies in the country.

A few years ago elaborate plans were laid in Germany to demonstrate the hotel 76, the interior of New Guinea by means of balloons, which were expected to drift over the island in the prevailing winds. The project was much discussed in the magazines, and subscription was solicited for its behoof, but it never carried out. It is now reported in the newspapers that Dr. Eric Mjorberg, a Swede, is planning to make use of an airplane to explore the interior of New Guinea, and is in the United States investigating the latest improvements in aviation.

All the vines of the English ivy type are of one species, Hedera helix. There are three distinct types due to geographical and climatic range and a score of horticultural forms. A small leaved variegated form is locally called carpet ivy, but the latter, of Irish ivy, is the form found in Ireland, having the largest leaves of all, light in color and thin in texture.

Well diggers near Athens, Wis., while down at the depth of 77 feet struck a good sized lead pipe which had been struck by well diggers in the vicinity of Athens.

PRUSSIA BEATEN;

HOPES U. S. WILL FIND A WAY OUT

Lord Northcliffe Does Not Want Peace Treaty Negotiations Hampered by German-American Vote Here.

Chicago, Feb. 3.—Charles H. Grasty in a special London cable to the Herald today says:

"This is the greatest test America has ever had," said Lord Northcliffe, last night. "I haven't wanted to see America come in this war. I hope even yet it may yet it may be avoided. We can win with our allies and when the time comes for making peace we will not need to be afraid of any possible influence of the German-American vote.

WAITED TOO LONG, HE SAYS

Britain Is Now on Land as on Sea, He Says—Declaration Shows America Europe's Plight.

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Shows Europe's Plight. "The United States has been remote from the war. It is perhaps natural that she should not know fully what European civilization has been against these two and a half years. Now she will know what it is to be in the path of a great power running amuck."

"Why has Germany taken this action?" I asked.

"Do not say Germany; it is Prussia," returned Lord Northcliffe. "It is a shame that one state should be able to cast obliquity on all the other German peoples who loathe this kind of warfare on women and children as much as the British do."

Whipped, Northcliffe Says. Prussia's reason is this. They are desperate. We have whipped them. They had the greatest war machine ever constructed. We stopped them at the Marne. After wiping out between Mons and Meaux, practically the entire British trained strength, they have waited until England has overtaken and passed them in men and material. Our gallant allies held them while we made splendidly ready.

"We now stand on the land as on the sea. We have got Prussia in a corner. She is doomed. They know what the military situation is and that is why they are throwing prudence and law to the winds, and they misjudge America as they misjudged us."

Berlin Fears Results. "As I have said, I hope that you may with honor and self respect, remain aloof, but if you should be compelled by circumstances to come in, you would bring an enormous weight of manhood, energy and resources of all kinds, and the barbarian of middle Europe, already beaten potentially, would be sooner brought to book."

"The barbarous and piratical warfare which Prussia brings to our coasts finds its ready ally in the German people. We are organized. We have a capable government. We put our house in order just in time. Berlin knows it—knows that we will be stronger and stronger as time goes on."

SECOND MESSAGE IN LEAK MISSING

Every Operator Disputes Statement of Connolly, of Whose Firm President's Brother-in-law Is Member.

New York, Feb. 2.—When the congressional "leak" inquiry committee adjourned today to meet in Washington, the testimony of F. A. Connolly, the Washington broker, regarding his sending a resume of President Wilson's peace note to E. F. Hutton & Co., New York, brokers' had been disputed by every telegraph operator in Hutton's employ, who Sherman L. Whipple said, might have handled Connolly's message.

Connolly had testified he sent the message over a private wire, between his house and Hutton's, between 12:15 and 1:30 p. m., December 29, Joseph W. Becker, Hutton's operator on this wire, first swore yesterday he received no such message. The other operators who followed today with denials that they received it were John F. Hummell, who works the only other regular wire into Connolly's and others who might have received either Becker or Hummell.

To Influence Witnesses. During the examination of the operators it developed that prior to their coming to the hearing today, E. F. Hutton, head of the firm, criticized Becker in the operating room in the presence of the other operators for his testimony. Hutton contended, according to the operators, that Becker could not remember at this date, whether he received the Connolly message.

Whether the Connolly message did reach the Hutton house by telegraph, the committee will investigate other channels through which it might have arrived. The fact developed today that Connolly's private wire into Hutton's also will be investigated and telegraph, has aroused interest and this subject will be gone into more fully.

Another Message Missing. George A. Ellis, Jr., the member of the Hutton firm, who wrote a warning to customers from the Connolly resume of the note that it was coming, will be the first witness called in Washington. He now is on his way north from Savannah, Ga., and has been advised by telegraph to stop off at Washington.

Inquiry also will be made soon into another telegram, which, like Connolly's, is missing. According to the testimony of M. A. Maitly, a Hutton operator today, Mr. Clement, of the Clement Curtis company, of Chicago, sent the Hutton house a message of protest touching on the president's note information disseminated by E. F. Hutton & Co., which has not been produced.

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